

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 6 is newly presented. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Shiga et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,650,683) in view of Greenlee (U.S. Patent No. 4,433,262). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites a rotary electric machine including an anchoring portion which is formed by pressing a portion of the laminated sheets near the commutator for anchoring a part of each of the in-slot portions that correspond to the portion of the laminated sheets to the armature core more strongly than other parts of the in-slot portions.

Shiga does not teach an anchoring portion which is formed by pressing a portion of the laminated sheets near the commutator for anchoring a part of each of the in-slot portions that correspond to the portion of the laminated sheets to the armature core more strongly than other parts of the in-slot portions. The Examiner alleges that Shiga shows an anchoring portion 525 for anchoring a part of each of the in-slot portions to the armature core (page 2 of the Office Action). However, Shiga teaches that the claws 525 are for holding armature coil 530 which is housed in slot 524. By contrast, claim 1 specifies that the armature core 2 has projections 21 that retain the conductor segments 4 and 5 in the slots 20 and a pressed portion 22 (Figures 1 and 2, and page 8, lines 2-6). Therefore the claws of Shiga differ from the anchoring portion, of claim 1, that is formed by pressing.

Further, the Examiner alleges that Greenlee teaches an anchoring portion 14, to anchor a part of the in-slot portion to the armature core more strongly than other parts of the in-slot portion. However, these locking members serve the same purpose as the claws of Shiga, the locking members do not anchor a part of each of the in-slot portions that correspond to the portion of the laminated sheets to the armature core more strongly than other parts of the in-slot portions, as claimed. Rather, the locking members serve to uniformly hold the windings in the slots. Therefore, no combination of Shiga and Greenlee teaches the subject matter of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

B. Claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Shiga et al. in view of Greenlee and in further view of Akira (Japanese Patent 62-247736). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 2-5 are believed allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 1 for the reasons stated above and for the additional features that they recite. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

New Claim

Claim 6 is newly presented. This claim is believed allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 6 is directed to a method for producing an armature. As indicated in MPEP 821.04 if Applicants elect product claims that are found allowable, process claims which include all of the limitations of the allowable product will be rejoined. Since claim 1 is believed allowable, Applicants believe that newly presented claim 6 is also allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached Appendix is captioned **“Version with markings to show changes made”**.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Appendix

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) An armature of a rotary electric machine comprising:
a rotary shaft;
an armature core composed of a plurality of laminated sheets through which said shaft is inserted and a plurality of slots at the outer periphery thereof; [and]
an armature coil composed of a plurality of conductor segments having in-slot portions being respectively inserted into said slots [and end portions forming a commutator];
and
a commutator integrated with said armature coil at an end thereof;
wherein said armature core comprises an anchoring portion formed by pressing a portion of said laminated sheets near said commutator for anchoring a part of each of said in-slot portions that correspond to said portion of said laminated sheets to said armature core more strongly than other parts of said in-slot portions.

Claim 6 has been added.